

Serial No.: 10/549,567
Atty. Docket No.: P70821US0

IN THE DRAWINGS:

With this Amendment, Applicants have provided two replacement sheets setting forth Figure 1 and Figure 3 and labeled with respect to their page sequence as "1/4" and "3/4", respectively. In each of Figures 1 and 3, the reference numeral "20" has been added along with a lead line to the indicated structure already shown in the drawings. No new matter has been added.

Entry of the two replacement sheets "1/4" and "3/4" is requested. Drawing sheets 2/4 and 4/4 as already on file should be retained.

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REMARKS

The Office Action mailed April 1, 2009, has been carefully reviewed and Applicants note with appreciation the identification of allowable subject matter.

By this Amendment Applicants have canceled claims 11 and 15-18, and amended claims 1, 7, 12 and 14. Claims 1-10 and 12-14 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 7, 12 and 14 are independent.

The Examiner objected to the specification as failing to provide antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. In particular, the Examiner identified the term "inner bag liner bottom portion" as lacking antecedent basis in the specification.

With this Amendment, Applicants have amended the specification to identify the "inner bag liner bottom portion" as well as the "closed end" with which it corresponds. The term "distal-most" has also been clarified as identifying the relationship between the inner bag liner bottom portion and the entry hole to the inner bag liner when the bag is filled. These amendments to the specification are further supported through the addition of reference numeral "20" to Figures 1 and 3, which have been provided herewith as two replacement sheets of drawings. Since the structure now identified with reference numeral 20 was

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present in the application as filed and is now being simply designated by a reference numeral, no new matter has been added. Entry of the amendments to the specification and of the replacement drawing sheets is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,591,144 to Smith, and rejected claim 5 as being unpatentable over Smith in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,423,782 to Wolrich. The Examiner objected to claims 11 and 15-17 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but stated that claims 11 and 15-17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the underlying base claim.

As amended herein, claims 1, 7, 12 and 14 have been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 11, 16, 17 and 15, respectively. Therefore, claims 1, 7, 12 and 14 are in condition for allowance in accordance with the Examiner's identification of allowable subject matter in claims 11 and 15-17.

With this amendment and the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. Further, in that the amendments are limited to those necessary to place the subject matter indicated to be allowable into condition for allowance, the amendments are proper after Final Action and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

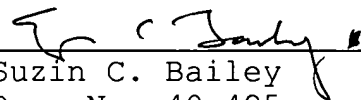
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Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, or if a telephone interview could be effective in addressing any remaining concerns the Examiner may have, the undersigned would welcome the opportunity to discuss the claims with the Examiner so that the present application can receive an early Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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By


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